

Message Text

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SUBJECT: DRAFT REMARKS FOR CONGRESSMAN WRIGHT AT OPENING OF
THE AMERICAN WEST EXHIBITION, WARSAW, JANUARY 8, 1974.

FOR: IEE/MALONE

1. MR. MINISTER, MR. AMBASSADOR, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS:
I WOULD FIRST LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR WARM RECEPTION
HERE TODAY. I AM VERY PROUD TO BE PRESENT AT THE OPEN-
ING OF THIS IMPORTANT EXHIBITION, ENTITLED THE AMERICAN
WEST. THIS IS A SIGNIFICANT OCCASION IN THE HISTORY
OF CULTURAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

2. IT IS APPROPRIATE IN MANY WAYS THAT THIS EXHIBITION
OF ORIGINAL 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN PAINTINGS,
THE FIRST OF ITS KIND EVER SHOWN IN POLAND, SHOULD BE
HELD HERE AT THE PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL MUSEUM. WARSAW,
AS ALL MEN KNOW, IS A CITY WHICH TRULY SYMBOLIZES
THROUGH ITS HISTORY THE INDOMITABLE SPIRIT OF MAN.

3. I AM TOLD THAT ONE OF THE VERY FEW BUILDINGS
LEFT STANDING AFTER THE SYSTEMATIC DESTRUCTION OF
THIS GREAT CAPITAL WAS THE ONE IN WHICH WE ARE NOW
STANDING. PERHAPS IT IS THE APPRECIATION OF THIS
FACT, SYMBOLICALLY AND ACTUALLY REPRESENTED BY THIS
JUSTLY FAMOUS MUSEUM AND NATIONAL COLLECTION, THAT
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MOST OF ALL MAKES TODAY'S OPENING TRULY SIGNIFICANT.

FOR IN A REAL WAY, THIS EXHIBIT IS THE CULTURAL REPRESENTATION OF ANOTHER KIND OF EXPRESSION OF THE SAME INDOMITABLE CHARACTER OF MAN.

4. I AM PROUD TO REPRESENT THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS THE STATE OF TEXAS ON THIS MEMORABLE OCCASION. I SINCERELY HOPE THAT THE PEOPLE OF POLAND, WHO HAVE BEEN SO GRACIOUS TO US IN THEIR HOSPITALITY, WILL ENJOY THESE PAINTINGS AND THE RICH STORY THEY TELL. IN THIS WAY, I HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GAIN A DEEPER INSIGHT INTO THE TRUE SPIRIT OF OUR WEST, AND THROUGH IT INTO THE SPIRIT OF AMERICA. I NEED NOT REMIND YOU THAT MANY OF THE MEN WHO HELPED US WIN AND FINALLY TAME THE WEST WERE BORN HERE IN POLAND. POLES HAVE ALWAYS PLAYED A DISTINGUISHED ROLE IN ALL ASPECTS OF AMERICAN HISTORY. THIS IS ONE OF THE DEEP NATURAL BONDS WHICH BRING OUR PEOPLES TOGETHER.

5. THE EXHIBIT WE ARE ABOUT TO SEE HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE GENEROUS COOPERATION OF THE POLISH MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ART, WORKING WITH THE AMON CARTER MUSEUM OF WESTERN ART, AS WELL AS SEVERAL OTHER AMERICAN MUSEUMS AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS.

6. THE MUTUAL COOPERATION DEMONSTRATED HERE FURTHER EXEMPLIFIES THE GROWING SPIRIT OF COOPERATION BOTH IN CULTURE AND MANY OTHER AREAS OF HUMAN ENDEAVOUR WHICH NOW EXISTS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. THE PRESENCE OF THIS EXHIBITION IN WARSAW TODAY ALSO DEMONSTRATES A GROWING AWA**NESS ON THE PART OF THE POLISH PEOPLE OF THE CULTURE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES. HIS FACT ALONE GIVES RISE TO FEELINGS OF GREAT PRIDE AND SATISFACTI*N FOR MYSELF AND MY COUNTRYMEN.

7. I WOULD LIKE ONCE AGAIN TO EXTEND MY PERSONAL THANKS AND VERY BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUEV SUCCESS TO THE ORGANIZERS AND HOST* OF THIS IMPORTANT UNCLASSIFIED

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EXHIBITION. THANK YOU.
DAVIES

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